

CRABTREE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH



THE VALLEY ECHO

December 20, 2021

Please mail all correspondence to: P.O. Box 30954, Raleigh, NC 27622
Church location: 4408 Lead Mine Rd Raleigh, NC 27612 Phone: (919) 781-5345
Email: cvbc@crabtreevalleybaptist.org Website: www.crabtreevalleybaptist.org
Church Office hours: Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm (closed on Friday)



Christmas Eve Service

Friday, December 24 at 5:00pm

As you prepare for Christmas day, please make plans to attend our Christmas Eve Service. We will conclude our advent season by worshiping through songs and scripture as we light the Christ candle and remember His love for us through communion. We will also light our own candles as we remember the joyful news that Christ was born to be the Savior of the world. We hope to see you here, please invite your friends and family.


Change of Plans

Only Worship Service on Dec 26

Please note that we will not be having Sunday School next Sunday. There will only be Worship service.

Church office information:
Interim Pastor • Rev. Johnny Richards
Music Director • Risa Poniros
Secretary • Peggy Utley
Youth Director • Anna Clark
Website updates/maintenance
webmaster@crabtreevalleybaptist.org

From the Pastor's Heart...



As I mentioned in my message on Sunday, November 28th, we were going on a trip. We knew where the trip was going to take us, and that was to the manger in Bethlehem, for Jesus' birth. Boy, how fast the trip has been. We have talked about the hope found in Christ. We have talked about the peace He can give to us. We have talked about the joy He can bring into our lives. We also talked about how much He loves us. And now, this Friday, our trip will be complete. This Friday, at our Christmas Eve service, we will light the one candle that is not about preparation for the trip, but it is about the arrival. I hope you

will join us for our Christmas Eve service as we light the Christ candle. But what exactly is the significance and importance of the "candle in the middle?" What does the Christ candle mean for you and me?

There are two things we can think about as we look at the Christ candle. The first thing we can think about is how Jesus Christ is the light of the world. The Christ candle is the candle that represents the fact that Christ has been born. He has come into the world and He has brought the light. John 1:9 says "the true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world." Jesus Christ is the light of the world. Another thing we can focus on is the fact that Jesus is also the central part of our lives. Think about our advent wreath we have been focusing on over the past few weeks by lighting the different candles. Hope, peace, joy and love are great things to have as a part of our lives. However, if we do not center our lives around Jesus Christ, it is going to be very difficult to experience those things.

The opposite of hope is hopelessness. The opposite of peace is chaos. The opposite of joy is discontentment. The opposite of love is hatred. If any of these are found in our lives, then our focus is probably not centered on Christ. We can find ourselves centering on any number of things, other than Christ. The closer we get to Christmas the busier things seem to get. Even our worship services get busier as we prepare for special worship opportunities. If we are not careful, we will put all of our focus on the events, and we will forget to center our thoughts on Christ.

A 16 year old girl named Haley shared how she keeps her thoughts centered on Christ at Christmas: "Each morning in December, I say a prayer and ask the Lord to help me feel the spirit of Christmas and find a way to serve someone that day....this helps me keep Christ in Christmas because I am acting more like Him." Sounds like a good piece of advice for all of us during this busy time. Until next week...

Peace and Blessings....
Johnny



SHARE THE SONSHINE

Share the Sonshine is an outreach ministry. We can all be a part of this ministry by praying for these individuals, sending cards or making phone calls.

Person of the Week for Dec 19-25

Johnnie Grubbs – Room 208
Cambridge Hills of Pittsboro
140 Brookstone Lane
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Deacon for this week: 12/19 Sue Edwards

Deacon for next week: 12/26 Barbara Goodson

Properties for December: David Jenkins

Monthly Sunday Morning Greeters:

1st Frances Viano 2nd Iva Snyder
3rd & 5th Cecil Brown 4th Dee Bullock



Our **Christmas Card Mailbox** is in the lobby and ready for members to use for exchanging Christmas cards with other church members and visitors. Please mail your cards to those members who are unable to attend regularly or are in Rehab/Care facilities, as the church does not mail cards that are not picked up. In lieu of postage, please make donations to the Lottie Moon and/or to the CBF Global Missions offering.



Office closed for Christmas

Thursday, December 23 – Tuesday, December 28

Please note:

There will not be a newsletter published the week after Christmas, December 27.

Prayer Concerns:

HOME

Sandi Robinson
Jean Glosson
Walt Switzer
Catherine Mullins
Jane Williams
Jetta Lewis
Marci Phelps – Charlotte’s daughter (friend of Jean Glosson)
Charlotte Phelps (Jean’s friend)

REHAB & CARE FACILITIES:

Anne Barden – Oak Hill Asst Living in Angier
Anne Jenkins – Morningside on Dixie Trail
Johnnie Grubbs – Cambridge Hills of Pittsboro
Bonnie Wright – The Reserve at Mills Farm in Apex

OTHER:

Sonshine Person of the Week
The Price family – Missionaries in Wales



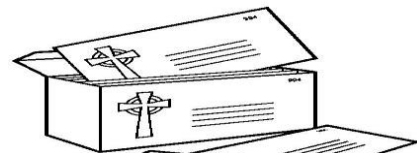
What a wonderful ending to our Advent season we experienced this past Sunday! “O Come, Let Us Adore Him”, presented by our choir and special guests, shared the wonderful message of God’s gift to the world through song. Special thanks to Risa, Cheryl, Randy and all the others who worked hard to make it a very special and meaningful service. It was indeed a service to remember and a beautiful expression of love! Thank you all so much!



Lottie Moon and CBF Global Missions offerings

Lottie Moon goal is \$500 ~ Received: \$275.00
Global Missions goal is \$500 ~ Received: \$760.00
Make checks payable to CVBC – note LM or Global on the memo line.

There are prayer guides and envelopes for each of these offerings on the lobby table.



All of the special offerings, as well as any contributions for 2021 need to be received at CVBC by Wed, Dec 29.

If you need a new box of envelopes for next year, please pick up a box from the lobby table or stop by the church. Be sure to put your name on the new envelopes the first time you use them so this new number can be assigned to you for record keeping.